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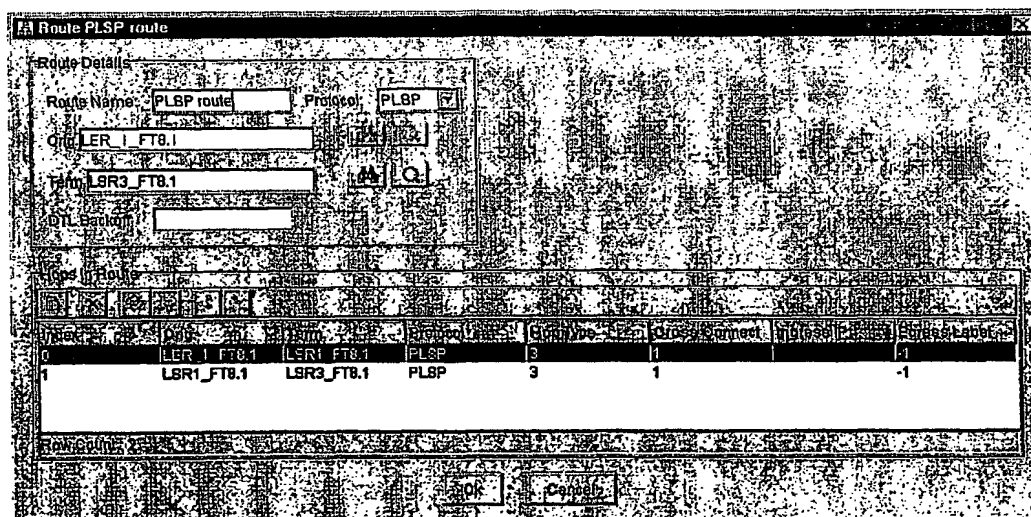
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(54) Title: **ROUTE OBJECTS IN TELECOMMUNICATIONS NETWORKS**



(57) Abstract: The invention provides, in a telecommunications network, a route object (RO) computer program product, comprising means for creating a RO which presents a user with editable fields relating to more than one type of RO, and allows the user to specify the contents of one or more of the fields to create any one of the types of RO. The editable fields may relate to a protocol used by the RO, or a type of route defined by a RO, or at least one network element (NE) of a route defined by the RO, or at least one hop of the RO. The RO computer program product may comprise means for interfacing with the user, for example a GUI which presents one or more windows to the user to allow the user to create a RO. For example, a NE listing window may be presented to the user, which comprises a NE context menu having a create RO menu item which brings up a window comprising a RO creation dialog box, which comprises one or more editable fields relating to more than one type of RO and the user specifies the contents of one or more of the fields to create any one of the types of RO.

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